

As a consequence of his order, all the  
shuttles are making for the rear, and  
changing to their former as engines.  
We intend having our army quarters  
and the fewest number of citizens  
possible. In regard to our clothes, you  
said or quoth Uncle Wm. Brewster to full  
that part of my order, which you stated  
was, the Express Co. I will be the gain  
by the operation after all, if the clothes  
are in good condition. I wrote Mr.  
Holliman to duplicate my hat order, but  
one is enough as I have one already  
which I brought here from Connecticut  
goods. I find it best to keep myself  
well prepared for emergencies.  
In regard to the matter I wrote you  
about, please let me know the result.  
Our latest advices from home are up to  
the 18th ult. quite a length. I don't  
believe sick & wounded have been granted  
a furlough, but have not left yet as  
the R.R. is "out of ballast".  
We require for the past month have been  
very heavy for the number of men we have,  
amounting to \$3872.41, which will nearly  
complete the outfit. Don't feel uneasy  
about the delay or non receipt of letters, but  
be guided by the state of our communications

operated. It is evident that some  
desperate movement on the part of  
the rebels is on foot. You can  
imagine we are not idle and I could  
give you the situation but don't  
deem it prudent. Suffice - our position  
is in this vicinity, with the others  
placed as the movements of the  
enemy warrant. They will do their  
utmost to force us to abandon  
Atlanta is evident, and they hope  
to do this by going on a spurt to  
the rear. Get a portion of that army  
is somewhere about here, and I think  
we will be apt to have some serious  
work right here, but I will trust  
General Wm. Sherman, to hold and be  
Birmingham in the rear. It is known  
that he has called on the War Dept  
for men and as he puts it to the War  
Dept. want men, not war churches and  
shoes. There seems to have been a  
slowdown somewhere in sending forward  
recruits. You must know our front  
is now guard, during this campaign  
and that we must have what we  
stop. There should have been in position  
by this time, but I expect they are not  
and we must look out for ourselves

Quarter-Masters Department,  
85th, IND. VOL. INFANTRY.

Atlanta, Georgia October 4th 1864.

My dear Father I have been so  
occupied with my business that I have  
not had time to write home or  
otherwise your kind and interesting  
letter of the 17th ult. would not have  
remained so long unanswered. I caught  
it with three other letters from Tom & Kate  
of various dates from Feb to 19th. They  
reached me on the 3rd, and were fresh  
for me that month. Our minds  
have been terrible behind hand during  
the past month and I think for  
a time they will be more so.  
It is generally believed in Jackson  
that Wood's company has crossed the  
Chattahoochee and is en route for  
Tennessee, where he is to be joined  
by Kirby Smith's Mississippi force and  
then force us to retreat to save our  
selves. This is believed to be the whole

disaster-lack or suffer the consequences.  
The movement has put a damper on  
the prospects of going home to vote and  
we now trust that George Minton  
will be elected without our vote. I  
doubt he will. This movement may  
have a tendency to influence the election  
and made in view of affecting that  
result. That the rebels at home are  
in communication with the rebels  
here, I think is beyond a doubt.  
There seems to be a wonderful unity of  
action between them, at any rate.  
Gen Sherman is truly a wonderful man  
and he must have a power of how to  
withstand the pressure of the amount of  
business he transacts. His attitude to the  
minute as well as the general details of  
his army. I send you a communication  
with his endorsement thereon. I made  
out the application for fully, and hoped  
his request might be granted, but that  
is - or seems well and to the point. War  
is war and I believe he alone fully  
appreciates the full force of the words  
he uses, and is terrible in earnest in all  
his undertakings. This endorsement  
like all others of his orders are typical  
of the man, and the vein of his thoughtfulness

Quarter-Masters Department,

85<sup>th</sup>, IND. VOL. INFANTRY.

October 4<sup>th</sup>

1864.

Atlanta Georgia  
My dear Father

I have been so

occupied with my business that I have not had time to write home or otherwise your kind and interesting letter of the 19th ult. would not have remained so long unanswered. I received it with three other letters from Terre Haute of various dates from 1st to 19th. They reached me on the 28th and were first for me that month. Our mails have been terrible behind hand during the past month and I think for a time they will be more so, It is generally beleived in fact known that Hood's army has crossed the Chattahoochee and is en route for Tennessee where he is to be joined by Kirby Smith's Mississippi force and then force us to retreat to save our selves. This is beleived to be the modus

operandi. It is evident that some desperate movement on the part of the rebels is on foot. You can imagine we are not idle and I could give you the situation but do not deem it prudent. Suffice- our corps is in this vicinity, with the others placed as the movements of the enemy warrant. They will do their utmost to force us to abandon Atlanta is evident and they hope to do this by going on a raid to the rear. Yet a portion of that army is somewhere about here, and I think we will be apt to have some serious work right here but I will trust General W. T. Sherman, to hold and be triumphant in the end. It is known that he had called on the War Dept for men and as he puts it to the Sec'y "I want men, not war speeches" and at once. There seems to have been a slowness some where in sending forward recruits. You must know we have had no rear guard, during this campaign and that we must have when we stop. These should have been in position by this time, but it seems they are not and we must look out for our own

Haver Sacks or suffer the consequences.

This movement has put a damper on [our?] prospects of going home to vote and we now trust that Governor Morton will be elected without our votes. I beleive he will. This movement may have a tendency to influence the election and made in view of effecting that result. That the rebels at home, are in communication with the rebels here. I think is beyond a doubt.

There seems to be a wonderful unity of action between them, at any rate.

Gen Sherman is truly a wonderful man and he must have a frame of Iron to withstand the pressure of the amount of business he transacts. He attends to the minutae, as well as the general details of his army. I send you a communication with his endorsement thereon. I made out the application for Tully, and hoped his request might be granted, but Genl S- reasons well and to the point-War is War and I believe he alone fully appreciates the full force of the words he uses, and is terrible in earnest in all his undertakings. This endorsement like all others of his orders ~~an~~ is typical of the man, and the vein of his thought & actions

As a consequence of his order all the Suthers are making for the rear and charging to their losses” as suggested. He intends having our army of soldiers and the fewest number of citizens possible. In regard to my clothes, you can request Mess H. & B. not to fill that part of my order, which you obtained from the Express Co. I will be the gainer by the operation after all, if the clothes are in good condition. I wrote Albert Williams to duplicate any hat order, but one is enough as I have one already which I bought here, from confiscated goods. I find it best to keep myself well prepared for emergencies. In regard to the matter I wrote you about, please let me know the result. Our latest advices from home are upto the 19th ult. Quite a length of time Indians Sick & wounded have been granted a furlough, but have not left yet as the R. R. is “out of ballast”. My issues for the past month have been very heavy for the number of men we have- amounting to \$3,873.41- which will nearly complete the outfit. Donot feel uneasy about the delay or non receipt of letter, but be guided by the state of our communications

[The following line is written on the left hand border of the last page:]  
Give much love & good wishes to all

Very Affectionately

Your son George E. Farrington.